



Tapu!tea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

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OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Acting Governor Ipulasi Aitofele Sunia & Rt. Hon. Winston Peters (photo: ASG)

Acting Governor Ipulasi Aitofele Sunia Welcomes Rt. Honorable Winston Peters

Acting Governor Ipulasi Aitofele Sunia welcomes Rt. Hon. Winston Peters, New Zealand Minister of Foreign Affairs, to American Samoa yesterday at Tafuna Airport. Mr. Peters was transiting on Polynesian Airlines enroute to Alofi, Niue after official visits to Tonga and Samoa. Acting Gov. Ipulasi hosted a quick luncheon for the Minister at the Governor's Lounge during the 45 minute Polynesian Airlines layover.



Governor Togiola hosts government and business leaders on NOAA's Hi'ialakai

Governor Togiola Tulafono will host a short cruise on the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research vessel "Hi'ialakai" this Friday morning, March 10th.

The Governor has extended an invitation to some of American Samoa's government and business leaders, including Congressman Faleomavaega Eni, Chief Justice Michael Kruse, Senate President Lolo M. Moliga, House Speaker Matagi Ray Mailo McMoore and representatives from StarKist Samoa and COS Samoa Packing.

The cruise is being coordinated by the Department of Commerce-Fagatele bay National Marine Sanctuary, and the ship's officers. Guest will be treated to a short sail out to the sanctuary, tours of the ship, and opportunities to discuss the ship's science mission with NOAA scientists.

The Hi'ialakai was commissioned last year and her homeport is Hawaii. Her mission is to provide ship support for NOAA's National Ocean Service and other NOAA offices, including the National Marine Fisheries Service. Their current mission to American Samoa included a coral reef survey of all the islands of the Territory and an education expedition led by the sanctuary.

Governor Togiola Tulafono travels to Pacific Trade Expo in New Zealand

Governor Togiola Tulafono today announced the itinerary for his five-day trade mission visit to New Zealand starting this Saturday evening.

Governor Togiola and representatives of the American Samoa Government Department of Commerce will attend the inaugural Pacific Trade Expo organized by the New Zealand Pacific Business Council at Manakau City in Auckland on Monday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 14th.

According to Governor Togiola, this very first Pacific Trade Expo was to facilitate and boost two-way trade among Pacific countries and he is very excited to see importers and exporters from the Pacific region come together to discuss interests in trade.

"An event like the Pacific Trade Expo boosts our confidence that Pacific businesses and government are expanding its approach and level of interest in intra-Pacific trade," said Governor Togiola. "Being the first expo, it is encouraging to hear that an event such as this is being received positively to promote two-way trade and investment within the Pacific region. We will all benefit from this event as we take our business on the road to entice new business and new products made available to the Territory."

At the Expo, Governor Togiola will meet with Associate Ministers for Pacific Island Affairs - the Honorable Taito Phillip Field and the Honorable Luamanuvao Winnie Laban - Samoan members of the New Zealand Parliament representing the electorates of Mangere and Mana, respectively.

The Governor is also expected to meet with New Zealand Minister for Trade Negotiations – the Honorable Jim Sutton and Mr. Brian Smythe, Regional Trade Advisor of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Pacific Division.

The Pacific Trade Expo will be held at TelstraClear Events Centre in Manukau City, where, according to organizers, 110 stands and stalls will be displayed and presented. Governor Togiola says New Zealand and American Samoa will both benefit because it allows expansion of business activities in Aotearoa and the Territory.

"Our two countries have a lot to gain because this Expo will join us together by trade. It will strengthen our trade ties and, of course, promote friendship, goodwill and understanding between the business communities of New Zealand and the Pacific countries," said Governor Togiola. "This event definitely will promote and encourage two way trade, investment, technical and economic co-operation and tourism for all of us."

Governor Togiola will return to American Samoa on Thursday, March 16th.



Governor Togiola Tulafono addresses the gathering at the Army Reserve Center on Saturday, March 11, 2006 to honor Toa O Samoa reservists from Bravo and Charlie Companies of the 442nd Infantry, 100th Battalion for their service in Operation Iraqi Freedom during the "Welcome Home Warrior Citizen" ceremony. The Governor praised the soldiers and said, "you have brought glory to us, your families and your government. You will always be called Toa O Samoa." (Photo: ASG)

Governor Togiola Tulafono sends condolences to Senator Inouye on the passing of his wife Mrs. Maggie Inouye

Senator Inouye:

For many years, to the American Samoan people, you have been "Fofoga o Samoa" –Voice of Samoa. Now in your time of sorrow, we stand together as one voice to say:

On behalf of the people and Government of American Samoa, I extend sincere condolences to you, Senator, on the passing of your dear and lovely wife, Maggie.

Maggie was the living celebration of Hawai'i in Washington D.C. You are blessed to have shared your life for 58 years with a woman who displayed sincere love and tremendous courage in offering a wealth of support to you on your journey to the Capitol and certainly, in your achievements as U.S. Senator.

Maggie's perseverance and dedication to you and your family has earned her the respect and admiration of the people of Hawaii, American Samoa and citizens around the world. She will surely be missed.

Mary and I also offer our sincere condolences to your son Kenny, and the entire Awamura and Inouye family members. May you remain strong and unafraid in these difficult times.

May Our Father in heaven, in His wonderful guidance, hold you in His love and care in your time of need."

Governor Togiola opens doors to opportunities in the Pacific at NZ Trade Expo

Governor Togiola Tulafono and First Lady Mary Tulafono attended the opening ceremonies of the inaugural Pacific Trade Expo on Monday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 14th at the new TelstraClear Pacific Events Center in Manukau City, Auckland, New Zealand.

The Expo theme: "Joining us Together – by Trade"

Also attending the trade show was Budget Director - Magalei Logovi'i, Commerce Deputy Director - Lelei Peau, and representatives of the Department of Commerce, who provided exhibits of the Administration's six economic development priorities: e-commerce and electronic communication, health care, local agricultural diversification, tourism, aquaculture, fisheries and air transportation

The ASG exhibition also featured local products, such as canned tuna, banana and taro chips, and DVD presentation themed "American Samoa – Opening Doors to Opportunities in the Pacific."

In conjunction with his participation at the Pacific Trade Expo, Governor Togiola met with Sir Barry Curtis, Mayor of Manukau, and visited the Manukau Institute of Technology (MIT), and was hosted by Dr. Geoffrey Page, PhD, Chief Executive, and members of his staff at the institute.

Governor Togiola discussed capacity building needs and opportunities for American Samoans at the institute and invited Dr. Page to conduct an independent needs assessment to identify areas of services and trainings that can be tailored at MIT for the Territory. The Governor also had an opportunity to meet with American Samoa student, an employee of ASPA, who is undergoing training in electrical engineering at the Institute.

At the conclusion of Pacific Trade Expo, Governor Togiola attended the 10th anniversary reception hosted by the Honorary Counsel for Mauritius in New Zealand, the Honorable Gilbert Ullrich, who happens to be the CEO of Ullrich Aluminium of New Zealand.

During the final day of the Expo, the Governor had meetings with the Honorable Luamanuvao Winnie Laban, a Samoan parliamentarian from the electorate of Mana, and who is Associate Minister for Pacific Island Affairs, and the Honorable Jim Sutton, Associate Minister for Trade Negotiations. During both meetings Governor Togiola highlighted his vision of open trade with New Zealand and promoted opportunities for New Zealand manufacturing businesses to conduct business in American Samoa. The centerpiece of the discussions was on potential partnering in American Samoa for economically beneficial opportunities for the two countries. He stressed the need for New Zealand and Pacific Island countries to work together to foster a stronger and more open international trading system that is critical to guaranteeing our mutual prosperity. Governor Togiola emphasized the need for continued dialog with New Zealand by highlighting the close proximity between the two countries coupled with American Samoa's access to the US market and his plans to expand and diversify the Territory's economy.

The Governor also conducted several interviews with the media and responded to questions regarding the status of economic development in the Territory; the future of the canneries; and incentives for new establishments.

During the Closing Event, Governor Togiola met with Siria R. Lopez, U.S. Consulate General and discussed visa related matters. The Governor took the opportunity to share with the US Consulate General his discussions with the US State Department during his most recent trip to Washington, DC and request for the commissioned U.S. Consulate Office in Samoa to process visa documents.

Mr. Gilbert W. Ullrich, Pacific Trade Expo Chairman, provided a tour of his Ullrich Aluminium Exports Co. Ltd. for Governor Togiola. He is also providing training for a company from American Samoa in the aluminum fabricating business.

The Governor is scheduled to meet with a representative of Southern Cross on Thursday, March 16th to discuss submarine cable connection issues, prior to departing New Zealand in the evening.

*****NOTICE*****

Subject: Centralization of Federal Grants Application, Review and Monitoring Process

As of December 14, 2005, General Memorandum No. 221-2005 announced that all authorized signatures for federal grant applications that had been delegated by the Governor to other public officials have been retracted. Now, all federal grant applications, whether in paper form or electronic submission, are required to be signed by the Governor before they are submitted. General Memorandum 221-2005 emphasizes the importance of a centralized grants application, review and monitoring process that allows for a single point of contact (POC). This will help resolve problems more quickly and give the grantee more consistent guidance. It also allows for greater assurance of allowable expenditures, enhanced monitoring, timely reporting, interagency collaboration, Federal compliance, and that is consistent with Territorial policies and plans. When it is required, intervention will be offered by the POC.

It is very important that a reasonable amount of time prior to the grant application due date be allowed for appropriate review of the application by the Office of Federal Programs (OFP), headed by Pat M. Galea'i before the application is officially submitted.

After the grant application is reviewed, in accordance with General Memorandum 221-2005, Governor's Executive Order No. 02-1995, Presidential Order No. 12372, and American Samoa's Grants Review Manual, the application will be forwarded with comments and recommendations by the OFP to the Governor for his final consideration and disposition. Those Federal grant applications not requiring the Governor's signature, but it concerns or affects American Samoa, must still be submitted to the OFP for review.

If you have any questions regarding the grant review process, please contact the Office of Federal Programs and Mr. Pat M. Galea'i at 633-5155.

Pati Faiai, Chief of Staff

ASCC Alumni Association Seeks New Members

(ASCC Press Release) The ASCC "Matai" Alumni Association strives to support the intellectual, cultural and social advancement of the American Samoa Community College students, and to foster a spirit of unity and networking among its members. The Association held a meeting last to elect its new officers, and has issued an open invitation to all ASCC alumni in the community and overseas to get in contact with them and help the College move forward.

Panisia Neueli now serves as the Association's President, with Amio Mavaega-Luvu serving as Vice President and Peteru Lam Yuen as Secretary/Treasurer. Maina Galea'i, Tuputausi Fatuesi and Vai Sauni now head the Association's Fundraising Committee. "We would like to include as many ASCC alumni as we can on our mailing list," said newly-elected Vice President Mavaega-Luvu. "Besides those on island, we know that many ASCC graduates now live all over the U.S., and even in other parts of the world. The Association would like to build a network of the College's alumni, in order to gather data on the many different careers they pursue in so many different locations, and also to keep them informed of the many different ways they can help ASCC." She invites all ASCC alumni to contact her via email at: amio1@yahoo.com.

The Association sponsors awards and monetary gifts for the top students in the areas of Math, English, Science, Samoan Language and Business, which they award each semester during the College's graduation ceremony. Through the generous contributions of community donors such as KS Mart, Samoa Motors, Tini Lam Yuen, Blue Fa'atasi Club and the Fainu'ulelei Ala'ilima Utu family, the Association has had the good fortune to provide awards to motivate students to excel in different subject areas.

For ASCC alumni interested in joining the Association, Mavaega-Luvu explained that the yearly \$10.00 registration fee helps pay for the five plaques and cash awards given during the fall and spring graduation ceremonies. Other benefits of joining or supporting the Association include a 10% discount off books, tuition, and computer lab fees. Members also pay student rates at ASCC paid functions, and also have access to Gym and Library services.

The Association plans to have its first fundraising for the year to help support its activities. They will hold a car wash in front of the College on Saturday, March 18, 2006, and they invite everyone in the community, especially ASCC alumni, to drop by and show their support.

For more information, on the ASCC "Matai" Alumni Association, contact Amio at 699-1394/1575 or Panisia at 699-9155.

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorenson, Historian, Office of the Governor

On March 8, 1927, American Samoa's Governor, Captain Henry Francis Bryan (USN, Ret.) issued this amendment to Regulation No. 2-1921: "Malagas: 6. In view of the fact that so much time has been wasted since the beginning of this year in cricket games between villages (some of which were played without authority), no permission will be granted for malagas until further orders. 7. No malaga will be made, at any time, for any purposes, without the approval of the governor. 8. Any disobedience of this order will be considered a violation of Section 10, Offenses Against the Government and the Civil Rights of Citizens, Paragraph 5, Codification of the Regulations and Orders for the Government of American Samoa, 1921, and dealt with accordingly."

On March 11, 1900, the U.S. Naval Station Commandant, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, invited Tui Manu'a Elisara to sign the Deed of Cession, thus ceding Manu'a to the United States. The Tui Manu'a replied that he was not yet prepared to make a decision, but he invited Tilley to Ta'u for discussions.

On March 11, 1942, the Commandant, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila (Captain Laurence Wild) requested materials from the U.S. Navy's Bureau of Ordnance to construct anti-boat booms across Tutuila's channels and inlets.

On March 11, 1944, a ships' service store was put into operation at the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila's Naval Air Facilities.

On March 12, 1900, Commander Benjamin Franklin Tilley, accompanied by Luther Wood Osborn, the American Consul General in Apia, met with Tui Manu'a Elisara on Ta'u "at 10 a.m." Tilley reported that "Tuimanua addressed me very courteously, giving me a hearty welcome to Manua, but at the same time giving me plainly to understand that he did not wish any interference with his 'kingdom' by any outside power." The *fono* lasted "until 3 p.m., without much result." Tilley wrote that "I was asked many questions by the Tuimanua, and other chiefs.....They seemed suspicious and somewhat sullen. (I learned afterward that they feared that I would take away their lands and other property. They had been told this by some of the mischievous and dissolute white men, who are the curse of these islands)." Upon rejoining his hosts in the evening, Tilley "found them in a very different frame of mind." After the evening session of the *fono* was "opened with prayers and singing," the Tuimanu'a handed Tilley "a letter, accepting gracefully for himself, the chiefs, and the people the sovereignty and protection of the United States of America, for the island[s] of Manua. I felt much gratified with the result of the day's work."

On March 12, 1942, Pago Pago Harbor boasted the following defense installations: 1) An anti-torpedo net across the entrance; 2) A submarine indicator net stretching from Blunts Point to Breakers Point, and 3) "Two sono-buoys located at the harbor entrance; one about six hundred yards east of Point Distress and the other about six hundred yards south of Breakers Point."

On March 12, 1974, Captain Thomas Benjamin Fitzpatrick, American Samoa's 24th naval governor (acting: January 15-20, 1936) Died in Garden City, New York.

On March 13, 1941, Captain Laurence Wild, Commandant of the U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, initiated plans for an airstrip on Tutuila.

On March 13, 1942, the Army Section of Japan's Imperial General Headquarters approved a southwest Pacific offensive aimed at New Caledonia, Fiji and Samoa.



ASCC "MATAI" ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

photo: J. Kneubuhl

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

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